

## Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4416

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UK, HU

SUBJECT: UK FONSEC CALLAGHAN JULY 28-29 VISIT TO BUDAPEST

THERE FOLLOWS BELOW THE TEXT OF SPEAKING NOTES USED BY THE UK  
REP AT THE AUGUST 19 POLADS BRIEFING ON THE VISIT OF SECRETARY  
CALLAGHAN TO BUDAPEST, 28-29 JULY.

BEGIN TEXT:

1. THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS  
VISITED BUDAPEST, 28-29 JULY, THE FIRST VISIT TO HUNGARY BY  
A BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY SINCE THE WAR.

2. MR CALLAGHAN MET MR PUJA, THE HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER,  
FOR FORMAL TALKS ON THE FIRST DAY OF HIS VISIT. MR CALLAGHAN  
FOUND THAT, IN CONTRAST TO THE INTELLIGENCE AND FLEXIBILITY SHOWN  
BY MR OLSZOWSKI, WHOM HE HAD MET RECENTLY IN WARSAW, HE FOUND  
MR PUJA WOODEN AND UNIMAGINATIVE. THE LATTER SAID LITTLE THAT  
WAS NEW TO US, DENOUNCED THE EEC COMMISSION AND ATTACKED CHINESE  
POLICY STRONGLY. HE MADE AN EQUALLY LABORIOUS STATEMENT ON  
BILATERAL RELATIONS, DREDGING UP EVERY HUNGARIAN COMPLAINT THAT  
HAD BEEN MADE TO US DURING THE LAST YEAR OR TWO. MR CALLAGHAN  
REPLIED SUTIABLY AND AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TALKS INVITED MR  
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PUJA TO COME TO LONDON.

3. ON THE FOLLOWING MORNING MR CALLAGHAN SAW THE ACTING PRIME  
MINISTER, MR ACZEL, WITH WHON HE AHD A USEFUL, IF DISCURSIVE

TALK: MR ACZEL WAS PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN CULTURE AND IDEOLOGY. THE FOREIGN SECRETARY THEN SAW THE PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL, MR LOSONCZI, WHO GAVE A WELL CONCEIVED SYNOPSIS VIEW OF HUNGARY'S VIEWS OF THE WORLD AND HER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM, SPEAKING VERY MUCH IN THE STYLE OF A HEAD OF STATE.

4. FINALLY, MR CALLAGHAN WENT TO SEE MR KADER, AT PARTY HEAD-QUARTERS AND HAD AN HOUR AND A HALF'S TALK WITH HIM. THIS WAS THE MOST VALUABLE PART OF THE VISIT AND MR KADER WAS IN EXCELLENT FORM. HE STRESSED THAT THE WAY WAS NOW OPEN FOR BOTH SIDES TO MAKE A NEW BEGINNING IN THEIR RELATIONS. HE SAID THAT HUNGARY REGARDED THE DOCUMENT THEY WERE ABOUT TO SIGN AT HELSINKI AS POLITICALLY AND MORALLY BINDING, THAT THEY MEANT TO CARRY OUT THEIR OBLIGATIONS, AND WOULD LOOK TO US TO MEET OURS. THEY WANTED A BETTER ATMOSPHERE IN EUROPE. POLITICAL CONDITIONS AND THE HEAVY BURDEN OF ARMAMENTS, FROM WHICH HUNGARY SUFFERED AS MUCH AS THE UNITED KINGDOM, MIGHT NOW MAKE IT EASIER TO NEGOTIATE FORCE REDUCTIONS. HE MAINTAINED THAT HUNGARY, THE SOVIET UNION AND THEIR ALLIES WERE SINCERE ADVOCATES OF PEACE. THE IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE "COULD GO ON IN A CIVILISED WAY". HUNGARY DID NOT JAM BROADCASTS AND MILLIONS OF TOURISTS CAME FROM THE WEST. HE RECOGNISED THE EEC AS A FACT. HUNGARY'S TRADE WITH WESTERN EUROPE WAS ESSENTIAL TO HER AND SHE WANTED TO EXPAND IT. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THESE TALKS AN INVITATION WAS EXTENDED TO THE PRIME MINISTER TO COME TO HUNGARY.

5. IN CONCLUSION, A NUMBER OF PROFESSIONS OF INTENT WERE SECURED FROM THE HUNGARIANS WHICH GAVE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE. MR CALLAGHAN WAS ABLE TO PUT A NUMBER OF POINTS ABOUT OUR OWN VIEW OF THE WORLD WHICH THEY CANNOT FAIL TO HAVE NOTED AND SOME OF WHICH WILL NO DOUBT BE PASSED ON TO MOSCOW AS INTENDED.  
END TEXT.  
BRUCE.

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